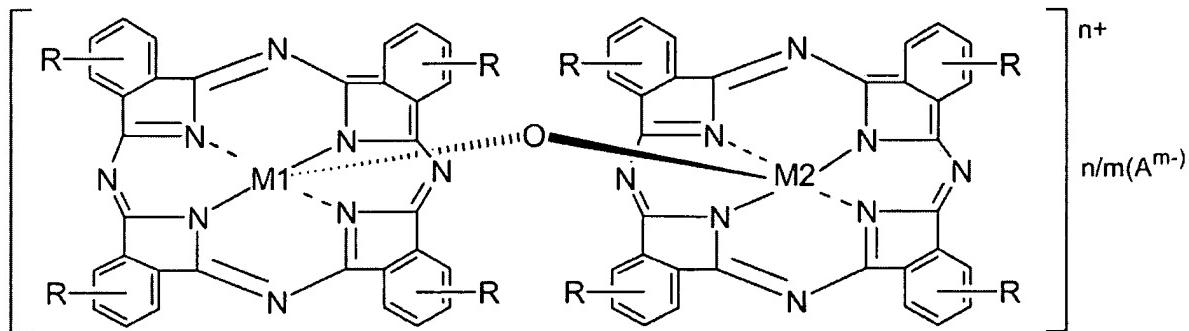


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A  $\mu$ -oxo bridged heterometal phthalocyanine compound represented by the following formula I:



I

wherein M1 represents a metal atom which is able to have a valence of up to three, excepting indium selected from the group consisting of scandium, yttrium, aluminum, gallium and thallium, M2 represents a metal atom which is able to have a valence of four selected from the group consisting of titanium, vanadium and molybdenum, R represents each independently hydrogen atom or one or more substituent groups and/or substituent atoms selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a propyl group, an isopropyl group, a butyl group, a tert-butyl group, an isoamyl group, a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, an isopropoxy group, a butoxy group, a phenoxy group, a phenyl group, a tolyl group, a benzyl group, an allyl group, an alkenyl group, a cyano group, a halogen atom of Cl, Br, I and F, a carboxylate group, a sulfonate group, a nitro group and an amino group, (A<sup>m-</sup>) represents a counteranion A having a valence of m, n/m represents the number of the counteranion, wherein the counteranion A is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy ion (OH<sup>-</sup>), halogen ion,

hydrogen sulfate ion ( $\text{HSO}_3^-$ ) and sulfate ion, n represents an integer selected from 0 or 1 to 3 corresponding to a valence of M<sub>2</sub>, and m represents 1 or 2.

2-3. **(Cancelled)**

4. (Original) The  $\mu$ -oxo bridged heterometal phthalocyanine compound according to Claim 1, wherein the M<sub>1</sub> is gallium or aluminum.

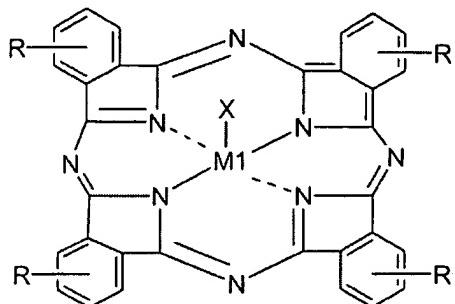
5-6. **(Cancelled)**

7. **(Currently Amended)** The  $\mu$ -oxo bridged heterometal phthalocyanine compound according to any one of Claims 1 [[to]] or 4, wherein the M<sub>2</sub> is titanium.

8. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing the  $\mu$ -oxo bridged heterometal phthalocyanine compound according to Claim 1, comprising the step of:

reacting a phthalocyanine having a halometal (III) as a central metal thereof with a phthalocyanine having an oxymetal(IV) as a central metal thereof in equimolar amount.

9. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** The method according to Claim 8, wherein the phthalocyanine having a halometal (III) represents the following formula:



A

wherein M1 represents a metal atom which is able to have a valence of up to three, excepting indium, R represents each independently one or more substituent groups and/or substituent atoms;

M1 represents a metal atom selected from the group consisting of scandium, yttrium, aluminum, gallium and thallium.

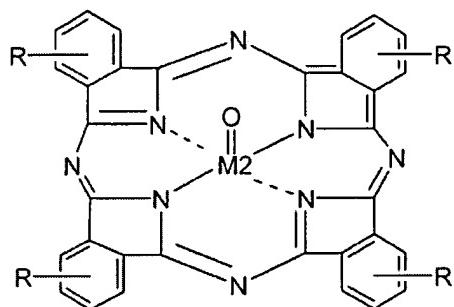
R represents each independently hydrogen atom or one or more substituent groups and/or substituent atoms selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a propyl group, an isopropyl group, a butyl group, a tert-butyl group, an isoamyl group, a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, an isopropoxy group, a butoxy group, a phenoxy group, a phenyl group, a tolyl group, a benzyl group, an allyl group, an alkenyl group, a cyano group, a halogen atom of Cl, Br, I and F, a carboxylate group, a sulfonate group, a nitro group and an amino group, and

X represents a halogen atom.

10 - 11. (Canceled)

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the M1 is gallium or aluminum.

13. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the phthalocyanine having an oxometal (IV) represents the following formula:



B

~~wherein M2 represents a metal atom which is able to have a valence of four, R represents each independently one or more substituent groups and/or substituent atoms~~

M2 represents a metal atom selected from the group consisting of titanium, vanadium and molybdenum, and

R represents each independently hydrogen atom or one or more substituent groups and/or substituent atoms selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a propyl group, an isopropyl group, a butyl group, a tert-butyl group, an isoamyl group, a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, an isopropoxy group, a butoxy group, a phenoxy group, a phenyl group, a tolyl group, a benzyl group, an allyl group, an alkenyl group, a cyano group, a halogen atom of Cl, Br, I and F, a carboxylate group, a sulfonate group, a nitro group and an amino group.

**14 - 15. (Canceled)**

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the M2 is titanium.

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising the step of:  
washing the reacted compound with aqueous ammonia.